



Longridge Urban District Council



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and

Public Health Inspector

Year ended 31st December, 1957.

L O N G R I D G E U R B A N D I S T R I C T C O U N C I L

...ooOoo...

1957/1958

Chairman of the Council :-

Councillor W.H. Riding

HEALTH HIGHWAYS AND PARKS COMMITTEE

Chairman :-

Councillor W.L. Houghton

Vice-Chairman :-

Councillor E.J. Melling

Members :-

Councillors E.C. Oakes, F. Singleton and F. Wilson

Medical Officer of Health

J. Walker, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., L.D.S., D.P.D., also Divisional Medical Officer to the Health Division No. 4 Lancashire County Council and Medical Officer of Health to the Adlington, Leyland, Longridge and Withnall Urban District Councils, Chorley Borough Council and Chorley and Preston Rural District Councils.

Public Health Inspector

V.N. Page, M.R.S.H, M.A.P.H.I.,
also Cleansing Superintendent.

Health Department,
Berry Lane,
Longridge.

Report of the Medical Officer of Health,
for the Year ended 31st December, 1957.

To: The Chairman and Members of the Council of
the Urban District of Longridge.

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Smith and Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in presenting the Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary circumstances of the District for the year ended 31st December, 1957.

The number of births assignable to the District was 85 or 9 more than in the previous year. This gives a Birth Rate per 1,000 population of 18.7 as against 16.1 for England and Wales. It is pleasing to report that there were no registered still births. There were 5 in the year 1956.

The number of deaths assigned to the District during the year was 57 or 14 more than in the previous year. The death rate per 1,000 population for the District was 12.5 as compared with 11.5 for the Country as a whole. The average age of death from all causes was 66.8 in relation to males and 69.0 for females. There were 12 deaths from malignant neoplasms and 21 deaths from heart disease. The comparative figures in 1956 were 4 and 14. It is pleasing to report that for the second consecutive year there were no deaths attributable to tuberculosis.

One infant died before reaching one year of age. There was one such death in 1956. The Infantile Mortality Rate for the District was 12 as compared with 23.0 for England and Wales.

Once again there were no deaths attributable to child birth. There have been no such deaths since the year 1941.

Although the District experienced the Asian Flu' epidemic no deaths from influenza were recorded.

The number of notifications of infectious diseases was 30 as compared with 312 in 1956. This reduction is accounted for by the fact that there were only 2 cases of measles as against 303 in the previous year. No cases of poliomyelitis were notified.

Turning to the Sanitary Circumstances of the District, the completion of the trunk sewer connecting Longridge drainage to the Joint Sewerage Scheme is a matter for much satisfaction. It is anticipated that the scheme will be operating some time during 1958.

In other respects there have been no major changes in environmental conditions. A start has not yet been made to the slum clearance programme but this should not now be long delayed.

A study of the Report will show that careful supervision has been maintained over all matters likely to effect the health of the Community.

Continued/

The Clean Air Act provides the means of combatting the menace of atmosphere pollution. It should be borne in mind that smoke from domestic chimneys is an important factor. The provisions of the Act must be vigorously implemented if the beneficial effects of clean air are to be procured.

It is very pleasing to note that the Council is considering a scheme for the housing of the Aged which may include certain welfare facilities. Such a scheme would, without doubt, be a great asset to the District.

In conclusion I wish to acknowledge my indebtedness to Mr. Page, Public Health Inspector, for his ready co-operation in all matters, and to the other Officers and Staff for willing assistance when ever required.

Lastly I would express my grateful thanks to the Chairman and Members for their consideration and encouragement.

I have the honour to be,
Your obedient servant,

J. WALKER

Medical Officer of Health,

Physical Features of the Area

The physical and geological features of the area, which have been described in previous reports, remain substantially the same.

Statistics of the Area

Area in Acres	3,282
Population (Census 1931)	4,158
Population (Census 1951)	4,308
Registrar General's estimate of Home Population (Mid 1957)	4,550
Number of inhabited houses (Census 1931)	1,067
Number of dwellings occupied and vacant (Census 1951)	1,336
Number of dwellings occupied (Census 1951)	1,306
Number of dwellings occupied and vacant (Ratebook 1957)	1,482
Number of dwellings occupied (Ratebook 1957)	1,465
Rateable Value 1957/58	41,627
Sum represented by a penny rate 1957/58	£166.171

Social Conditions and Amenities of the District

There have been no changes worthy of comment in the social conditions and amenities of the area.

Vital Statistics

Births

Live Births -

						<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate ...	...	...	...	...	...	39	46	85
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
						39	46	85

Birth Rate per 1,000 Population 18.7

Still Births -

Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
						-	-	-

Rate per 1,000 total live and still births Nil

Table of Vital Statistics
Live Births, Deaths and Stillbirths

	Live Births		Deaths (All causes)		Stillbirths	
	No. Regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 Pop'n	No. Regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 Pop'n	No. Regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 Total Births
Year 1957	85	18.7	57	12.5	Nil	Nil
" 1956	76	16.8	43	9.5	5	62
" 1955	86	19.3	56	12.6	2	23
" 1954	85	19.1	59	13.2	6	66
" 1953	80	18.0	49	11.0	2	24
" 1952	94	21.4	39	8.9	1	11
Average 5 years 1952-1956	84	18.9	49	11.4	3	37

The birth and death rates shown in the previous and subsequent tables are known as "crude" rates. The Registrar General issues a comparability factor based on age and distribution of population which should be used when comparing the vital statistics of one area with another. The adjusted rates for this area are therefore as follows, allowing for a birth comparability factor of 1.09 and 1.14 for deaths.

Adjusted Birth Rate - 20.4 per 1,000 population.

Adjusted Death Rate - 14.3 per 1,000 population.

Table of Vital Statistics
Maternal and Infant Mortality

	Maternal Mortality		Infant Mortality			
			Total under 1 year		Neo-Natal under 4 weeks	
	No. of deaths Registered	Rate per 1,000 Total Births	No. of deaths Registered	Rate per 1,000 Live Births	No. of Deaths Registered	Rate per 1,000 Live Births
Year 1957	Nil	Nil	1	12	1	12
" 1956	Nil	Nil	1	13	Nil	Nil
" 1955	Nil	Nil	2	23	1	12
" 1954	Nil	Nil	1	12	1	12
" 1953	Nil	Nil	3	38	1	13
" 1952	Nil	Nil	5	53	2	21
Average 5 years 1952-1956	Nil	Nil	2	27.8	1	11.6

Comparative Table of Vital Statistics for
Longridge, Lancashire and England and Wales

	Per 1,000 of population		Maternal Mortality	Infant Mortality
	Live Birth Rate	Crude Death Rate	Per 1,000 Total live and Still Births	Per 1,000 Live Births
Longridge Average 5 years 1952 - 1956	18.9	11.4	Nil	27.8
1957	18.7	12.5	Nil	12
Lancashire 1957	15.99	12.84	0.57	25.1
England & Wales 1957	16.1	11.5	0.47	23.0

Analysis of Causes of Death

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	-	-	-
Tuberculosis (Non Respiratory)	-	-	-
Malignant Diseases	5	7	12
Leukaemia	-	-	-
Diabetes	-	-	-
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	4	9	13
Heart Diseases	14	7	21
Other Circulatory Diseases	2	1	3
Influenza	-	-	-
Pneumonia	2	2	4
Bronchitis	1	-	1
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	-	-	-
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	-	-	-
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhea	-	-	-
Nephritis and Nephrosis	-	-	-
Hyperplasia of Prostate	-	-	-
Congenital Malformations	-	-	-
Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases	1	2	3
Accidents	-	-	-
Suicide	-	-	-
	<hr/> 29	<hr/> 28	<hr/> 57 <hr/>

Diseases of the heart and vascular lesions of the nervous system were again the dominant cause of death in both males and females. These deaths include all forms of "strokes".

Deaths from malignant diseases were 8 more than the previous year.

Bronchitis caused 1 death.

Infant Mortality

There was 1 death of infants under 1 year the same as in the previous year. This gives an infant mortality rate of 12 per 1,000 live births as compared with 13 in the previous year. The infant mortality rate for England and Wales as a whole is 23.0.

The cause of death of the infant is given below.

<u>Sex</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Cause of Death</u>
Female	1 Week	Broncho pneumonia and Prematurity

Tuberculosis

There were no new cases of Respiratory Tuberculosis notified during the year but two cases of Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis were notified during this period.

The death rate per 1,000 of population from this disease are, Respiratory 0.00 and Non-Respiratory 0.00. The comparative figures for England and Wales are Respiratory 0.09 and Non-Respiratory 0.01.

Two cases of Respiratory Tuberculosis and six cases of Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis were removed from the register during the year.

The number of people on the register at the end of the year under review is shown below.

Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
9	4	1	5
13		Totals	6

Comparative Table of Tuberculosis Death Rates for Longridge, Lancashire, England & Wales

	Per 1,000 of Estimated Population		
	Death Rate from Respiratory Tuberculosis	Death Rate from Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis	Death Rate from all forms of Tuberculosis
Longridge Average 5 years 1952 - 1956	0.46	0.05	0.096
1956	0.00	0.00	0.00
1957	0.00	0.00	0.00
Lancashire 1957	0.098	0.013	0.111
England & Wales 1957	0.09	0.01	0.11

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

Laboratory Services

The Laboratory of Preston Royal Infirmary was used to examine specimens for the diagnosis of cases of infectious disease and for pathological specimens for ordinary diseases, for the bacteriological examination of milks and ice cream and also tests for Tubercle Bacillus in milks.

Hospital Accommodation

Infectious Diseases are normally admitted to the Deepdale Isolation Hospital. The number of infectious cases admitted to hospitals in 1957 was 18.

General Diseases. Three hospitals were available for patients in this district :-

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1) Preston Royal Infirmary | } | Administered by the
Preston and Chorley
Hospital Management
Committee. |
| 2) . Sharoe Green Municipal Hospital, Preston | | |
| 3) St. Joseph's Hospital, Mount Street,
Preston (for private patients) | | |

Venereal Diseases. Clinics are held at the Preston Royal Infirmary. Advice and treatment are free and confidential.

National Assistance Act, 1948

It has not been necessary to recommend the removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention as envisaged by Section 47 of the above Act.

It was not necessary to exercise the provisions of the National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951.

This Act gives local authorities further powers to enable them to deal expediently with certain cases of persons in need of care and attention which they are not receiving from other people. Where the Medical Officer of Health and another registered medical practitioner certify that, in the case of a person to whom section 47 (1) of the National Assistance Act, 1948, applies, it is necessary in their opinion that he should be removed without delay from the premises in which he is residing, an application for a removal order may be made immediately to the appropriate magistrates. Any order made under these provisions is valid for a period not exceeding three weeks.

COUNTY COUNCIL HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

There are a variety of Health Services of the Lancashire County Council operated in the area and which are under the control of the No. 4 Divisional Health Committee, 55, Victoria Road, Fulwood, Preston, telephone Preston 77263.

AMBULANCE SERVICE

The ambulance needs for Longridge are supplied by the service operated from Broughton House, Garstang Road, which deals with most of the area of Health Division No. 4 north of the Ribble, of which Longridge forms part. The ambulance vehicles are now under radio control.

HOME NURSING AND MIDWIFERY SERVICE

A team of three nurses serve the Longridge and district area. The duties of these nurses include care of patients in their own homes, and they arrange for the loan of nursing equipment in suitable cases. Expectant mothers who are confined at home are also attended by them.

HOME HELP SERVICE

Home Helps are employed in Longridge and help a variety of cases including confinements, sickness, old age and infirmity and Tuberculosis cases. Night helps are also employed where needed.

CHILD WELFARE CENTRE

There is a weekly Child Welfare session held at the School Clinic, 26, Kestor Lane, Longridge, every Tuesday afternoon. A doctor and Health Visitor attend and give advice on infant care and management. Baby foods are also sold at the centre.

SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE

Medical and hygiene inspections are carried out at the school Clinic, 26, Kestor Lane, Longridge. Clinic sessions are held for a variety of treatments including minor ailments, dental care and ophthalmic conditions. The County Council make special provisions for residential schooling for various categories of handicapped children such as the blind, partially sighted, deaf and dumb, epileptics, delicate and backward.

CONVALESCENT CARE

In suitable cases arrangements are made for the admission of patients to convalescent homes.

WELFARE SERVICE

Residential homes are provided to accommodate elderly and infirm persons who have no longer anyone to adequately care for them. Handicapped persons are also assisted.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

The table below gives an analysis of notified cases.

	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Measles	Tuberculosis Non- Respiratory
Under 1				
1 - 2	2	4	2	
3 - 4	1	2		
5 - 9	13	2		1
10 - 14	2			
15 - 24				1
25 - 34				
35 - 44				
45 - 64				
65 & over				
Total cases all ages	18	8	2	2
Total Deaths	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total cases removed to Hospital	18	Nil	Nil	Nil

The total notifications of 30 cases of infectious disease compares with 312 cases in 1956.

It will be seen from the table above that the majority of notifications were in respect of Scarlet Fever. There were 15 more cases of this disease than in the previous year.

No cases of poliomyelitis were notified during the year.

Diphtheria was again absent from the district, the last notified case being in 1944.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk.

The milk retailed in Longridge is mostly Tuberculin Tested and farm bottled, that is to say bottled on the farm of production. T.T. milk which is not farm bottled is either purchased at the Ashley Dairy or at an attested farm and bottled on the retailer's premises.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food control milk production at the farms, and any milk found to fail the methylene blue test or the bacteriological test is reported to the County Milk Production Officer for his information and action, and at the same time the milk producer is informed of the unsatisfactory result.

REPORT ON MILK SAMPLES

The results of the samples of milk submitted for bacteriological examination and biological tests are shown below.

Test carried out	No. of samples taken	No. passed	No. failed
Methylene Blue Reductase	26	24	2
Bacillus Coli	26	26	-
Tubercle Bacillus	26	26	-

Dr. Gawne, the County Medical Officer of Health, supplied the following information of the results of food and drugs samples taken in Longridge during 1957.

A total of 25 samples was obtained, consisting of 17 samples of milk (one of which was a sample of Channel Islands milk) and 8 others comprising :-

- 4 Ice Cream
- 1 Bacon
- 1 Butter
- 2 Whiskey

The samples were submitted to the County Analyst for analysis and were reported to be genuine with the exception of the following :-

<u>Sample No.</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Result of Analysis</u>	<u>Action taken</u>
C.7604	Ice Cream (informal)	Fat content only 3.4%.	Formal sample obtained.

<u>Sample No.</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Result of Analysis</u>	<u>Action taken</u>
C.7805	Ice Cream (formal)	Fat content only 4.2%.	The vendor was interviewed and further samples obtained which were 'genuine'.

SMOKE ABATEMENT

There are four large industrial installations burning hard fuel. Of the four industrial plants all but one have mechanical stokers fitted. Excessive emissions of smoke are fairly satisfactorily controlled. One installation has not been used during the past year and is not likely to be used in the future.

The provisions of the Clean Air Act, 1956 still to come into force include sections 1 and 2 which with certain exceptions prohibit the emission of dark smoke from chimneys; sections 5 to 9, which regulate the discharge of grit and dust from furnaces; section 16, which provides new powers for dealing with smoke nuisances; and sections 19 and 20, which prohibit dark smoke from railway engines and ships respectively. At the end of the year under review the necessary Order bringing these provisions into force had not been made, but it was received early in 1958 under the title 'The Clean Air Act, 1956 (Appointed Day) Order, 1958,' and it fixes June 1st, 1958 as the date of operation of all those provisions of the Act which are not already in force.

MEAT

During the year under review an application has been received from Mr. Wilson of Neville Street, Longridge for the premises to be used as a slaughterhouse. Considerable alterations and improvements have been carried out to the premises in Neville Street, and they have now been brought up to the standard required by the proposed Regulations for the control of slaughterhouses, with the exception of the provision of a stunning pen.

A licence will now be granted in the early part of 1958.

The arrangement whereby Mr. Graham, the Public Health Inspector of Fulwood Urban District Council, carries out meat inspection at Longridge when Mr. Page is absent or on holiday, continued until Mr. Graham left in October. Since then Mr. McFarlane has been appointed at Fulwood and the reciprocal arrangement continued as on previous occasions. Mr. Page of course carries out meat inspection at Fulwood when required.

In the case of the slaughterhouse which is at present licensed, there has not been any necessity to carry out any major improvements or alterations and the working conditions continue to be fairly good.

There were 42 cattle, 103 cows and 688 sheep slaughtered and examined during the year.

One whole carcase was condemned for generalised Tuberculosis and one heifer and 24 cows were affected by this disease in some organ or other.

Three cattle, 18 cows and 57 sheep and lambs had parts or organs condemned for diseases other than Tuberculosis.

No animals were found to be affected by Cysticercosis and it was not found necessary to carry out the refrigeration treatment for the elimination of this condition. All meat condemned has been voluntarily surrendered as in the past and arrangements made for it to be transported to a suitable factory designed for the treatment of diseased meat where it is rendered safe and sterile before being utilised for purposes other than human consumption. Of the other foods examined approximately 35 lbs. was condemned as being unfit for human consumption. This food was voluntarily surrendered and disposed of by the local authority.

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS

Alterations and improvements have continued to be carried out throughout the year by shopkeepers who have agreed to bring their premises up to the standards required by the Food Hygiene Regulations.

A number of visits have been made for this purpose and the position generally is one of satisfaction. One or two cases are outstanding, and it may be necessary to envoke the Regulations to ensure that the necessary work is carried out.

Travelling shops are still a problem and there are difficulties in persuading owners to comply with some parts of the Regulations, though there has been co-operation in some cases in this respect.

WATER SUPPLY

I am indebted to Mr. J.F. Bailey, A.M.Inst.C.E., M.Inst.W.E., Engineer and Manager to the Preston County Borough Council for providing the following information.

The water supply to Longridge is controlled by the Preston Corporation Water Department and is upland surface water collected from the Longridge Fell. It is of good quality and there was no restriction upon the use of water during 1957, there being a full and continuous supply to all consumers.

The average quantity of water supplied to each individual consumer in Longridge was :-

	Gallons per <u>Annum</u>	Gallons per <u>Day</u>
Domestic and Public Uses 	10,909	29.89
Industrial and Trade Requirements ...	<u>5,657</u>	<u>15.5</u>
	<u>16,566</u>	<u>45.39</u>

The Laboratory for the Waterworks is situated at Longridge where week by week checks are made upon the chemical and bacteriological characteristics throughout the year.

In the case of water supplied to Longridge 24 bacteriological examinations and 3 chemical analyses were carried out, all of which were found to be satisfactory.

The following is a chemical analysis of a sample of water taken in the Longridge district.

	<u>Parts per 1,000,000</u>
Total solid Residue (Dried at 180°c	92.0
(in 15mins.	0.12
Oxygen required to oxidise (in 3 hours	0.41
Ammonia - Free and Saline	0.008
Ammonia - Albuminoid	0.154
Nitrogen as Nitrates	0.10
Nitrogen as Nitrites	Nil
Chlorides	14.0
Temporary Hardness	4.0
Permanent Hardness	42.0
Total Hardness	46.0
pH Value	7.3

Physical Properties - Colour 8 Hazen, Odourless.

Remarks: The quality of this water is satisfactory.

The following is a bacteriological examination taken from a Longridge tap.

Temperature of Water at time of collection - 44 F.

Remarks: pH 7.1 Colour Hazen.

Organisms growing on Yeastrel Agar, per 1 m.l. of Water

Cultivated for 3 days at 20° - 22°C 0

Cultivated for 2 days at 37°C 0

Coli-Aerogenes Bacteria

Found in 0 m.l.

Not found in 100 m.l.

McCrady - No. per 100 m.l. 0

Sub-cultured to 44°C: Positive faecal B. Coli 0

Organisms of the I.A.C. Group 0

The results are satisfactory.

Supply to Houses.

There were 14 houses newly connected during the year, all of these being new houses built for private ownership.

At the end of the year the number of dwelling houses connected to the public mains was 1,475 serving an estimated population of 4,473. There are no houses in the district served by means of a standpipe.

General.

The water has no liability to plumbo-solvency and the analyses show no contamination occurred during the year.

DRAINAGE & SEWERAGE

The trunk sewer connecting the Longridge sewer at the old sewage works and continuing to the boundary with Preston Rural District Council has been completed and is awaiting the completion of the Joint Sewerage Scheme with Preston County Borough, Fulwood Urban District Council and Preston Rural District Council.

When the scheme is completed all treatment of sewage at the present works will cease.

SANITARY ACOMMODATION

The following comparative table shows the type of accommodation existing in dwelling houses.

Year	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
Freshwater closets	1293	1303	1367	1388	1413	1473	1539
Waste water closets	232	212	199	180	165	152	130
Pail closets	80	77	77	77	77	76	76
Privy	17	17	17	17	17	17	17
Baths	634	642	677	702	817	871	898

PRIVATE STREETS AND BACK PASSAGES

No private street works were carried out in 1957.

SCHOOLS

The total number of schools in the district remains at five, which are as follows :-

County Primary and Junior School	Chapel Street
R. Smith's C.E. Secondary School	Berry Lane
Junior C. of E. School	Berry Lane
St. Wilfrid's R.C. School	St. Wilfrid's Terrace
Our Lady & St. Michaels R.C. School	Preston Road, Alston

There is every indication that the local representatives on the Divisional Education Committee are fully alive to the need for still more schools.

NEW SCHOOLS

Building has commenced on the new secondary modern school at Preston Road to serve the Longridge area. Completion is anticipated early in 1959.

HOUSING

The following table shows the number of new houses completed during the year.

	Houses	Flats
By the Local Authority	None	None
By other Local Authorities	None	None
Other bodies or persons	14	None

1. Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year :-

(1) (a) Total no. of dwelling-houses inspected formally or informally for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	215
(b) No. of inspections, formal or informal, made for the purpose	268
(2) Dwelling-houses unfit for human habitation and not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered fit:	
(a) No. found during year	3
(b) Total No. (or estimated No.) existing at end of year	78
(3) No. of dwelling-houses found during the year to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation but capable of being rendered fit	35

2. Houses Demolished :-

In Clearance Area - (Housing Act, 1936, and Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954):

	<u>Houses Demolished</u>	<u>Persons</u>	<u>Families</u>
(1) Houses unfit for human habitation	Nil	Nil	Nil
(2) Houses included by reason of bad arrangement etc.	Nil	Nil	Nil
(3) Houses on land acquired under Section 27, Housing Act, 1936	Nil	Nil	Nil

Not in Clearance Areas:

(4) As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 11, Housing Act, 1936	Nil	Nil	Nil
---	-----	-----	-----

3. Unfit Houses :-

Houses
Demolished Persons Families

(1) Under Section 11, Housing Act, 1936, and Sections 10 (1) and 11(2), Local Govt. (Misc. Prov.) Act, 1953

2 6 2

(2) Under Sections 3 (1) and 3 (2), Hsg. Act, 1949

Nil Nil Nil

(3) Parts of buildings closed under Section 12, Housing Act, 1936

Nil Nil Nil

4. Unfit Houses Made Fit and Houses in which Defects were Remedied :-

By Owner By Local Authority

(1) After informal action by local authority

31 -

(2) After formal notice under (a) Public Health Acts

1 Nil

(b) Housing Act, 1936

Nil Nil

(3) Under Section 5, Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954

Nil Nil

5. Unfit Houses in Temporary Use (Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954) :-

Number of separate dwellings contained in column (1) (2)

Position at end of year:

(1) Retained for temporary accommodation -

(a) Under Section 2

Nil Nil

(b) Under Section 3

Nil Nil

(c) Under Section 4

Nil Nil

(2) Licenced for temporary occupation under Section 6

Nil Nil

6. Purchase of Houses by Agreement :-

Number of houses (1) Number of occupants of houses in Col. (1) (2)

Houses in Clearance Areas other than those included in confirmed Clearance Orders or Compulsory Purchase Orders, purchased during the year

Nil Nil

Housing Act, 1949 - Improvement grants, etc. -

Action during year:	Private bodies or individuals		Local Authority	
	No. of schemes	No. of dwelling houses or other buildings affected	No. of schemes	No. of dwelling houses or other buildings affected
(a) Submitted by private individuals to local authority	9	9	-	-
(b) Approved by local authority	9	9	-	-
(c) Submitted by local authority to Ministry	-	-	-	-
(d) Finally approved by Ministry	-	-	-	-
(e) Work completed	7	7	-	-
(f) Additional separate dwellings included in (e) above	-	-	-	-

THE RENT ACT, 1957 - This Act came into operation on the 6th July, 1957, and had the general objectives of enabling rented houses and flats to be put and kept in repair, of increasing the total stock of rented accommodation, of securing a better use of existing housing accommodation, and of making a beginning on the restoration of a free market in rented housing. The Minister in the circular accompanying the Act asked local authorities to do all that they could to assist people affected by the Act in their areas. The department dealt with an avalanche of enquiries over a period of many weeks, and the people concerned were made fully aware of their position under the provisions of the Act. This had the effect in many cases of reducing the friction which existed between the landlord and tenant.

Part II of the First Schedule:

No. of applications for certificates of disrepair.

No. of certificates issued.

No. of undertakings given by Landlords to remedy defects.

No. of applications in which the defects were remedied immediately after local authority notice.

No. of applications withdrawn.

No. of certificates of disrepair revoked.

THE HOUSING ACT, 1957 - This Act came into operation on the 1st September, 1957, and generally speaking it consolidates all the existing legislation dealing with the repair, reconstruction, closing and demolition of private houses.

The following tables show the administration of the Factories Act, 1937, within the district.

Type of Factory	No. on Register	Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Non-Mechanical	3	2	Nil	Nil
Mechanical	41	44	Nil	Nil
Building Sites	4	10	Nil	Nil
Total	48	56	Nil	Nil

	Defects		Cases referred		No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Insp.	By H.M. Insp.	
Want of cleanliness	5	5	Nil	Nil	Nil
Overcrowding	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Unreasonable Temperature	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Inadequate Ventilation	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ineffective drainage of floors	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sanitary Conveniences					
(a) Insufficient	2	2	Nil	Nil	Nil
(b) Unsuitable or defective	10	8	Nil	Nil	Nil
(c) Not separate sexes	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total	17	15	Nil	Nil	Nil

The acts, orders and regulations controlling many aspects of public health work are constantly changing and the following list, whilst not exhaustive, shows some of the relevant new legislation which came into operation during the year under review.

Housing Act, 1957.

National Health Service (Amendment) Act, 1957.

National Insurance Act, 1957 (Appointed day).

National Insurance (No. 2) Act, 1957 (Appointed day).

New Streets Act, 1951 (Amendment) Act, 1957.

Nurses Act, 1957.

Nurses Agencies Act, 1957.

Public Health Officers (Deputies) Act, 1957.

Rating and Valuation Act, 1957.

Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages (Special Provisions) Act, 1957.

Rent Act, 1957.

The Rent Restrictions Regulations, 1957.

Food Hygiene (Amendment) Regulations, 1957 (1st June, 1958).

The petroleum-spirit (Conveyance by Road) Regulations, 1957.

Housing (Prescribed Forms) Regulations, 1957.

Health Department,
Berry Lane,
Longridge.

The Public Health Inspector's Report
for the year ended December 31st, 1957

Mr. Chairman and Members of the
Council of the Longridge Urban District.

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Smith and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting the Annual Report for the year 1957.

This report marks the tenth I have submitted to the Longridge Council and I feel covers a period of expansion probably greater than at any time during the past 60 years. These years include the largest building programme undertaken of the erection of council houses, the number of dwelling houses built being about seventeen per cent of the whole.

During this time the new legislation which has been enacted, covers every phase of the environmental work of the health department and includes acts controlling housing, clean air, food hygiene, rodent control and public health.

To implement these new acts and Regulations it becomes necessary to educate the persons concerned with the industry or business they control so that a better co-operation is enjoyed between the owners and public health department.

Generally when there has been a full discussion on the points affecting an owner, a ready co-operation to carry out the necessary work is met with.

Repairs to the older property in the district are being carried out more readily than previously was the case, due to the owners of such properties being able to increase rents, if the house is made fit and in a reasonable state of repair.

Details of Inspections.

Visits to premises during the year totalled 1,406 and are detailed as follows :-

In comparison with the previous year when 1,306 visits were made, it will be seen that the increase was due mainly to visits to slaughter-houses and other food premises.

DETAILS OF INSPECTIONS

Bakehouses, Butchers and Greengrocers Shops	165
Drainage	182
Factories	56
Food Inspections	148
Farms, Daries and Milkshops	42
Inspections under Housing Acts	60
Infectious Diseases	19
Infectious Disease Fumigations	16
Inspections under the Public Health Acts	155
Licensed Premises	40
Moveable Dwellings	15
Refuse Collection and Disposal	104
Rodent Control	118
Schools	20
Shops	74
Slaughterhouses	114
Smoke observations	8
Miscellaneous visits	75
	<hr/>
	1406
	<hr/>

HOUSING

Two houses were closed in pursuance of undertakings by owners under Section 16 of the Housing Act, 1957 and are still operative. These houses are those included in the list under Section 1 of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, and have been closed due to their dangerous and dilapidated condition requiring immediate action.

Nine applications for improvement grants under the Housing Act, 1949 part 2 were approved and seven schemes have been completed during the year.

One application for a certificate of disrepair was granted under the Rent Act, 1957.

Though owners of tenanted property in Longridge have taken advantage of the Rent Act, 1957, to increase the rents of their property, informal action has resulted in work being done by owners without recourse to issuing Certificates of Disrepair.

Thirtyone houses were dealt with informally and one house was made fit by formal action under the Public Health Act.

RODENT CONTROL

There appears to be a reduction in the rat infestations in the district which seem to be dropping year by year.

No doubt this position is due to the constant inspections and control which is carried out by local authorities as this seems to be general throughout the country.

A failure to maintain this control would soon bring back the old order of things when major infestations caused untold damage to food stuffs.

The results found when the two six monthly treatments were carried out to the council's sewage system revealed little infestation. Only in isolated cases were infestations found and only then on a small scale.

The work as in the past is still done by one part-time employed operator.

The table below shows the work carried out for the twelve months ended 31st December, 1957.

	<u>Type of Property</u>		
	<u>Non-agricultural</u>	<u>Agricultural</u>	
	<u>Dwelling Houses</u>	<u>All Other</u>	
(a) No. of properties in district	1412	244	67
(b) No. of properties inspected	235	70	54
(c) Total inspections carried out (including re-inspections)	265	95	72
(d) No. of properties inspected which were found to be infested by:			
Rats - major	Nil	Nil	Nil
minor	4	2	4
Mice - major	Nil	Nil	Nil
minor	Nil //	Nil 5	Nil
(e) No. of infested properties treated	44 15	5 7	Nil 4
(f) Total treatments carried out (including re-treatments)	45 16	7 12	4
(g) No. of "Block" control schemes carried out	Nil	Nil	Nil

DRAINAGE

A better rate of progress was maintained in converting existing waste water closets to wash down pedestal closets during the year.

22 Conversions were carried out in 1957 as against 13 the year before.

No doubt the present improvements being carried out to some properties is helping the position of converting these very unsatisfactory and obsolete waste water closets.

Only 130 of these closets remain to be converted. The figure in 1948 being 306.

Water tests are carried out to all new drainage installations and a good standard of drainage is maintained.

The builders generally are co-operating in a satisfactory manner in reporting drainage work being done in the district, and are always willing to carry out any advice given on matters apertaining to drainage layouts.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

There has been no change in the methods employed in disinfecting premises required to be dealt with following outbreaks of infectious disease. Formalin vapour lamps are used for premises requiring treatment and household effects and library books are also treated with formalin.

Beds and bedding is destroyed on request by the council workmen when a death has occurred.

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Ante and postmortem inspections were carried out at the slaughterhouse and some 833 animals were dealt with. The details of the condemnations are tabulated below.

The weight of meat voluntarily surrendered amounted to 1,560 lbs. This condemned meat is disposed of by being dispatched to a bonafide firm after suitable colouring matter has been applied to it.

The following are the details of the carcasses inspected and condemned in whole or in part.

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	42	103	None	688	None
Number inspected	42	103	None	688	None
<u>ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS AND CYSTICERCI.</u>					
Whole carcase condemned	None	None	None	None	None
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	3	18	None	57	None
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci.	7.1	17.5	None	8.2	None

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs
<u>TUBERCULOSIS ONLY -</u>				
Whole carcase condemned	None	1	None	None
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1	24	None	None
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	2.38	24.3	None	None
<u>CYSTICERCOSIS -</u>				
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	None	None	None	None
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	None	None	None	None
Generalised and totally condemned	None	None	None	None

In addition 35 lbs. of other foods were found to be unsound and unfit for human consumption and in all cases were voluntarily surrendered by the shopkeepers.

MILK

Milk Supply.

The following are the details of registered distributors and actions taken with regard to the administration of the Milk and Daries Act and Regulations.

No. of registered distributors operating from :-

- | | |
|--|------|
| 1. Dairy farms in the district | 2 |
| 2. Daries in the district | None |
| 3. Shops in the district other than daries | None |
| 4. Premises outside the district | 6 |

The Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949 :-

No. of dealers' licences (including supplementary licences) issued by the local authority during

1957 in respect of	Tuberculin Tested milk	6
	Accredited milk	None
	Pasteurised	- 2

Milk Supply Continued

It was not found necessary to revoke or refuse to grant a licence during the year.

This does not include producer retailers carrying on business in the district who are not required to be registered with the Local Authority.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

Number of Food premises registered, by type, under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Acts or under Local Acts.

Type of business	No. Registered at 31. 12. 57.	No. of inspections of registered premises during year
Butchers	4	68
Hawkers	1	10
Ice Cream	19	19

Number of food premises, by type of business, in district, at end of year.

Grocers	16	Fried Fish Shops	3
Greengrocers	5	Sweet, Minerals and Ice Cream	19
Meat Shops	7	Catering Establishments	22
Bakers and Confectioners	6	Others	1

PUBLIC CLEANSING

House and Trade Refuse Collection and Disposal.

Though to the uninformed person the routine weekly collection of refuse and salvage in the area does not merit much attention, the difficulty with small units in maintaining regular collections becomes a problem for the following reasons.

With a small staff the absence of one or two men creates greater difficulties than an authority much larger than Longridge, the same conditions applying when dealing with plant and vehicles, there being no spare vehicles available, meaning that it is imperative that maintenance is carried out with the utmost regularity so as not to interfere with the collection times

Despite the difficulties outlined above the regular collection of house and trade refuse has been maintained and no serious breakdown occurred.

The number of ashbins now being collected is 1455, and are mainly of the $2\frac{1}{2}$ cu. ft. B.S.S. type. The practise of the council in selling these bins at almost the purchase price does help to standardise the bins used in the district.

Disposal. The lease on the Thornley Tip has now passed the half way period and only approximately 8 years remain for tipping time. One or two new sites are under consideration but no definite place has been found. The embargo on tipping on the easterly side of Longridge restricts the areas available for long term tipping.

There is no change with regard to the tipping procedure and difficulty still exists in getting suitable top soil to cover the portions already tipped.

Regular treatments have been carried out to control rodent infestations and no major infestation has occurred this year. It will be found that the conditions in any tip are suitable for serious infestations if treatments are not maintained.

Salvage. The figures for salvage collection will be found to be very similar to the year 1956. No expansion of paper collection could be carried out due to the continuing restriction on the amount of paper which the Thames Board Mills will accept. Paper is still being stored at the Chapel Hill Depot until such times as the quota restrictions are lifted. The gross amount collected is similar to that of the year before.

The yield figures per month per 1,000 of population of paper collected shows a difference of 1 cwt. per 1,000 over the previous year, but paper stored at the depot will level up the two figures when the gross amounts are compared.

The prices received from the Thames Board Mills for waste paper has remained the same as in the year 1956.

Weight of salvage collected and sold.

	1956/57				1957/58			
	Tons	Cwts	Qrs	Lbs	Tons	Cwts	Qrs	Lbs
Mixed paper	41	14	2	0	47	15	2	20
Books & Magazines	10	17	2	0	4	12	0	0
Newspapers	18	7	2	0	18	6	0	0
Fibreboard	25	9	3	0	23	14	1	8
Ferrous Metal	9	12	1	7	8	17	0	13
Non-Ferrous Metal		4	2	24		5	3	4
Textiles	2	8	3	7	2	7	3	25
	108	15	0	10	105	18	3	14

Value of salvage sold

	1956/57			1957/58		
	£	s	d	£	s	d
Mixed paper	312	18	11	358	7	11
Books and Magazines	97	17	6	41	8	0
Newspapers	183	15	0	183	0	0
Fibreboard	242	2	9	225	6	2
Ferrous Metal	42	1	8	26	6	8
Non-Ferrous Metal	28	6	8	25	5	10
Textiles	68	6	11	65	10	7
	975	9	5	925	5	2

The table below gives the yield of waste paper per 1,000 of population for the past ten years.

<u>Weight per 1,000 population per month</u>	
	<u>Cwts</u>
1948	25.0
1949	23.0
1950	28.5
1951	27.5
1952	24.2
1953	34.0
1954	31.0
1955	38.4
1956	35.6
1957	34.6

The following is a summary of the collection and disposal of refuse and salvage during the financial year ended 31st March, 1958, together with figures for the preceding financial years ended 31st March, 1957 and 1956 and other figures of yield and disposal for comparison.

Estimated weight of refuse and salvage collected

	1955/56				1956/57				1957/58			
	T.	C.	Q.	Lbs.	T.	C.	Q.	Lbs.	T.	C.	Q.	Lbs.
House and Trade Refuse	699	12	0	0	664	5	0	0	786	15	0	0
Salvage	116	5	0	23	108	15	0	10	105	18	3	14
	815	17	0	23	773	0	0	10	892	13	3	14

Cost of Collection and Disposal

	1954/55	1955/56	1956/57	1957/58
	£	£	£	£
Refuse Collection	1,237	1,340	1,406	1,482
Motor Transport	735	805	877	968
Tip Maintenance etc.	144	135	108	170
Salvage - Baling and Bonuses	435	393	597	504
	2,569	2,673	2,988	3,124
Less Income :-				
Trade Refuse	6	8	2	3
Salvage Sales	845	1,120	1,117	1,041
	1,714	1,545	1,869	2,080

Gross income from salvage for the past ten years.

	Tons	Cwts	Qrs	Lbs	£	s	d
1948	64	4	1	0	553	3	6
1949	68	11	1	0	543	3	6
1950	81	8	2	0	749	7	4
1951	80	0	2	0	1,474	5	1
1952	74	19	0	14	710	1	0
1953	96	9	1	10	776	14	3
1954	87	14	3	4	746	5	2
1955	116	5	0	23	1,119	14	5
1956	108	15	0	10	975	9	5
1957	105	18	3	14	925	5	2
Total	884	6	3	19	8,573	8	10

CONCLUSION

May I tender my thanks and appreciation to the Chairman and Members of the Council for their interest and support.

My thanks are also due to my fellow officers and staff for their co-operation and I express my appreciation to Dr. Walker for his guidance and support.

-----oOo-----

I am, Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Smith & Gentlemen,
Yours obediently,

W. A. Page.
Public Health Inspector.

